

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Office of the Mayor

March 14, 2014

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Mayor Announces Community Arts Grants

STAMFORD, CT – Mayor David R. Martin earlier today presented this year's grant funds to the recipients of the Community Arts Partnership Program.

The Community Arts Partnership Program fosters innovation in the arts in Stamford. The program encourages increased audience participation in and enjoyment of the arts for all residents of Stamford. For the past fourteen years, the City of Stamford has funded a community-wide grants program to expand and diversify the cultural services accessible to the people of Stamford. Since 2006, over \$700,000 has been awarded to 23 different agencies.

Eligible applicants include Stamford-based tax-exempt organizations and community organizations. Types of eligible organizations include: arts organizations, neighborhood organizations, ethnic groups and clubs, social service and health agencies, housing organizations and community service organizations. All programs must be open to the public. Religious organizations can apply for an arts program that will be open to the public and not related to a religious service. The Mayor's office has released a total of \$50,000 for fiscal year 2013-2014, with grants provided to the following recipients ranging in amounts from \$1,000 to \$6,000:

Boys & Girls Club of Stamford

Ken Salem

\$5.500

The Boys & Girls Club will offer after school enrichment activities that provide exposure to music, dance, poetry and playwriting, fine arts and digital arts.

Connecticut Ballet, Inc.

Brett Raphael

\$5,000

Funds will support the 32nd season of the Connecticut Ballet including *Cinderella, Giselle* and *The Nutcracker*, at the Stamford Center for the Arts.

CB Productions, LLC

Carol Bryan

\$3,000

DanceFest brings together dance school directors, teachers, choreographers, students, their families and friends to participate and observe master classes in nine different dance techniques and engage master guest teachers, culminating in a Student Festival Performance of original choreography.

First United Methodist Church

Lum Lee

\$2,000

FIRST at FIRST at FOUR a community wide concert and Young Artist Showcase featuring instrumentalists, vocalists and accompanists. Each concert will feature a different type of music, including classical jazz, gospel, jazz and jazz fusion. Concerts will feature two 45-minute performances with accompaniment, intermission and allow time after the concert for the audience and performers to mix.

Intake Organization, Inc.

Angelica Durell

\$3.000

A public performance in honor of International Women's Day, showcasing classical music written by female composers, performed on native instruments, to reflect the cultural diversity of Stamford.

Loft Artist Association Ellen Gordon \$6,000

Support for three events – the 35th annual Open Studios, a Loft Artists Drawing Exhibit to coincide with the Aldrich Museum's *Draw On* program, and the LAA's *Holiday Show and Boutique*. For information on upcoming programs visit the LAA website www.loftartists.com.

Lumina String Quartet

Asya Meshberg

\$5,000

Lumina will perform three concerts at the Palace Theater and the Ferguson Library and organize a Chamber Music Institute for Young People.

Namaskaar Foundation, Inc.

Vrunda Patel

\$4,500

Namaskaar promotes, preserves, and raises awareness of performing arts from India and other countries among non-traditional audiences. Funding will support the World on Stage music series.

Stamford All-School Musical

Nancy Freedman

\$4,000

Funds will support the production of Shrek the Musical.

Stamford Art Association

Christine Irvin

\$2.000

Funds will support the SAA annual exhibit of work by high school seniors; recognizing and encouraging the emerging art talent in the local community.

The Ballet School of Stamford

Marti Etter

\$6,000

The outreach program *Dance for All* is designed to reach children who otherwise would not be able to participate in dance classes.

The Stamford Chorale

Miriam Shaw

\$2.500

Two formal concerts will be presented. The group rehearses and recruits year round with the goal of creating an intergenerational organization which will mirror the community in which we live united by a passion and love of music and performance.

Unitarian Universalist Society in Stamford Maureen F. Higle/Christie Fountain

\$1,500

A concert to showcase the historic Johnson Opus 339 organ. The organ, installed in 1870 has been repaired to playable condition.

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